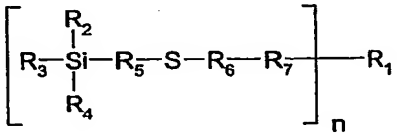
What is claimed is:

1. A composition comprising

a) a naturally occurring or synthetic elastomer susceptible to oxidative, thermal, dynamic, light-induced and/or ozone-induced degradation,

b) a white reinforcing filler, and

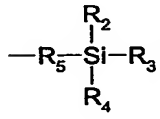
c) as coupling agent, at least one compound of the formula I



(I),

wherein, when n is 1,

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_1-C_{25}alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl; C_7-C_{12}phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl;



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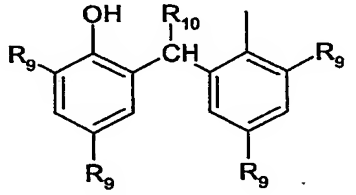
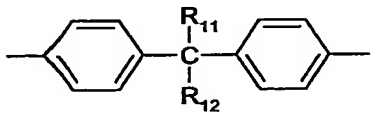


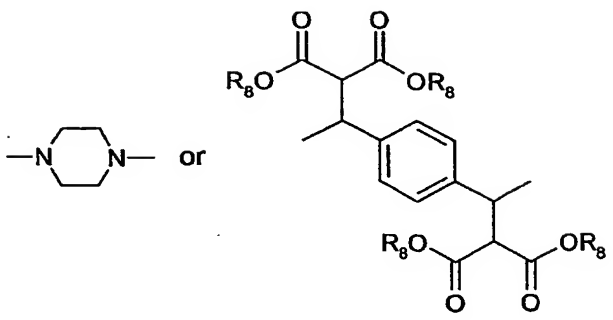
; or when R_7 is a direct bond, R_1 is -CN, -SOR_8, -SO_2R_8, -NO_2 or -COR_8,

when n is 2,

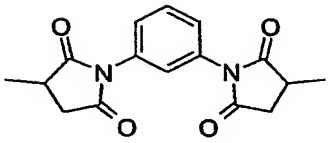
R_1 is C_1-C_{25}alkylene, C_1-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl; C_2-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_2-C_{25}alkylene interrupted by oxygen, sulfur, phenylene or cyclohexylene;



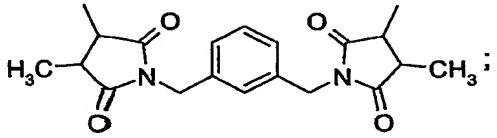
,



; or when R_6 and R_7 are a direct bond, R_1 is



or



;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, C_1-C_{25}alkoxy, C_3-C_{25}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{25}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_9phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{25}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_{25}alkoxy, C_3-C_{25}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{25}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_9phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{25}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy;

R_5 is C_1-C_{25}alkylene, C_5-C_{12}cycloalkylene, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted phenylene;

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_{25}alkylene; or C_1-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or  , with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is  , R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_8 is C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, C_2-C_{25}alkinyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl,

R_9 is C_1-C_5alkyl,

R_{10} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen, CF_3, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl, or R_{11} and R_{12}, together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, form a C_5-C_8cycloalkylidene ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by from 1 to 3 C_1-C_4alkyl groups,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

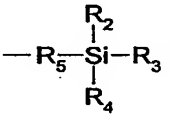
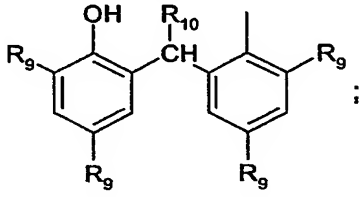
R_{14} is hydrogen or C_1-C_{12}alkyl,

M is sodium, potassium or ammonium, and

n is 1 or 2; or an oligomeric hydrolysis product of the compound of the formula I.

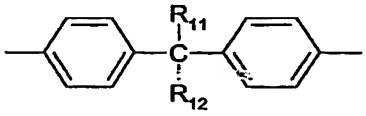
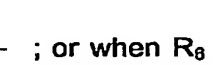
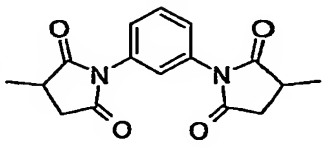
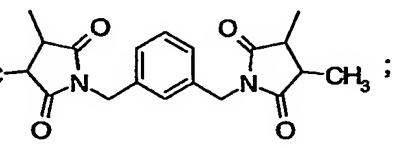
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein

when n is 1,

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_2-C_{18}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_8cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl; C_7-C_{10}phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl;  or  ;

or when R_7 is a direct bond, R_1 is -CN, -SOR_8, -SO_2R_8, -NO_2 or -COR_8,

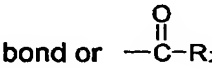
when n is 2,

R_1 is C_1-C_{18}alkylene, C_1-C_{18}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl; C_2-C_{18}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_2-C_{18}alkylene interrupted by oxygen, sulfur, phenylene or cyclohexylene;  or  ; or when R_8 and R_7 are a direct bond, R_1 is  or  ;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_8cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_3-C_{18}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_8cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{18}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_9phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{18}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_3-C_{18}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_8cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{18}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_9phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{18}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy;

R_5 is C_1-C_{18}alkylene, C_5-C_8cycloalkylene, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted phenylene;

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_{18}alkylene; or C_1-C_{18}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or  , with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is  , R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_8 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_8cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{18}alkenyl, C_2-C_{18}alkinyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl,

R_9 is is C_1-C_5alkyl,

R_{10} is hydrogen or methyl,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen, CF_3, C_1-C_8alkyl or phenyl, or R_{11} and R_{12}, together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, form a C_5-C_8cycloalkylidene ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by from 1 to 3 C_1-C_4alkyl groups,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen or C_1-C_8alkyl,

M is sodium, potassium or ammonium, and

n is 1 or 2

3. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_4alkyl or C_1-C_4alkoxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_4alkoxy.

4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein R_5 is C_2-C_4alkylene.

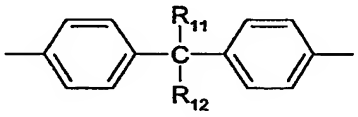
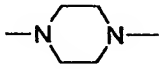
5. A composition according to claim 1, wherein
when n is 1,

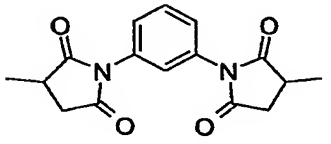
R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_2-C_{12}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_4-C_{12}-alkenyl, phenyl, C_7-C_{10}phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloal-

kyl; $-R_5-\overset{\overset{R_2}{|}}{\underset{\underset{R_4}{|}}{Si}}-R_3$, or when R_7 is a direct bond, R_1 is -CN, -SOR_8 or -SO_2R_8;

when n is 2,

R_1 is C_2-C_{12}alkylene, C_2-C_{12}alkylene substituted with methyl; C_2-C_{12}alkylene substituted with methyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_4-C_{12}alkylene interrupted by oxygen, sulfur, phenylene or

cyclohexylene;  or  ; or when R_6 and R_7 are a

direct bond, R_1 is  ;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_8alkyl, C_4-C_8alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, benzyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_3-C_8alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyloxy, C_2-C_{12}alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, chloro, bromo, C_2-C_8alkanoyloxy or benzoyloxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_3-C_8alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyloxy, C_2-C_{12}alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, chloro, bromo, C_2-C_8alkanoyloxy or benzoyloxy;

R_5 is C_2-C_8alkylene, cyclohexylene or phenylene;

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_8alkylene; or C_1-C_8alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_8alkoxy-carbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_{13}-$, with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_{13}-$, R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_8 is C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_2-C_{12}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkinyl, benzyl or phenyl,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen or C_1-C_8alkyl, or R_{11} and R_{12}, together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, form a cyclohexylidene ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by from 1 to 3 methyl groups,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl,

M is sodium or potassium, and

n is 1 or 2.

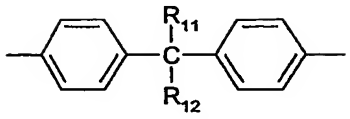
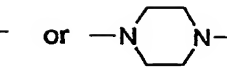
6. A composition according to claim 1, wherein

when n is 1,

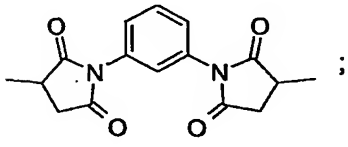
R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_8alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_2-C_8alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_4-C_{10}-alkenyl, phenyl, C_7-C_{10}phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl; $-R_5-\overset{R_2}{\underset{R_4}{\overset{|}{\underset{|}{Si}}}}-R_3$, or when R_7 is a direct bond, R_1 is -CN, -SOR_8 or -SO_2R_8;

when n is 2,

R_1 is C_2-C_8alkylene, C_2-C_8alkylene substituted with methyl; C_2-C_{10}alkylene substituted with methyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_4-C_{12}alkylene interrupted by oxygen or sulfur;

; or when R_6 and R_7 are a direct bond, R_1 is



;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_4alkyl, cyclohexyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, benzyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, cyclohexyloxy, C_2-C_6alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, chloro, C_2-C_4alkanoyloxy or benzoyloxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_4alkoxy, cyclohexyloxy, C_2-C_6alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, chloro, C_2-C_4alkanoyloxy or benzoyloxy;

R_5 is C_2-C_6alkylene or cyclohexylene,

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_6alkylene; or C_1-C_6alkylene substituted with methyl, C_2-C_6alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or  , with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is  , R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_8 is C_1-C_8alkyl or C_2-C_{12}alkenyl,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen or methyl,

M is sodium or potassium, and

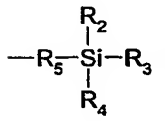
n is 1 or 2.

7. A composition according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~

when n is 1,

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_4alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or M^+ ^-O_3S-; C_2-C_6alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_4-C_{10}al-

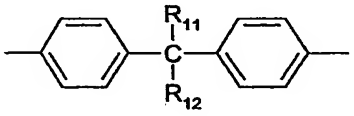
kenyl, phenyl; C_7-C_9phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl;



, or when R_7 is a direct bond, R_1 is -CN;

when n is 2,

R_1 is C_2-C_6alkylene, C_2-C_4alkylene substituted with methyl; C_4-C_8alkylene substituted with methyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_4-C_8alkylene interrupted by oxygen;



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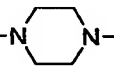
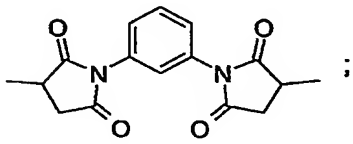


; or when R_6 and R_7 are a direct bond, R_1 is



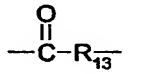
;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_4alkyl or C_1-C_4alkoxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_4alkoxy;

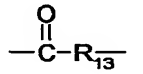
R_5 is C_2-C_4alkylene,

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_3alkylene; or C_1-C_3alkylene substituted with methyl, C_2-C_3alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or



, with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is



, R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen,

M is potassium, and

n is 1 or 2; or an oligomeric hydrolysis product of the compound of the formula Ia.

8. A composition according to claim 1, in which component a) is a natural or synthetic rubber or vulcanizate prepared therefrom.

9. A composition according to claim 1, in which component a) is a polydiene vulcanizate, a halogen-containing polydiene vulcanizate, a polydiene copolymer vulcanizate or an ethylene-propylene terpolymer vulcanizate.

10. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is silica or alumina, or a mixture of silica and alumina.

11. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is present in an amount of 1 to 40% based on the weight of component (a).

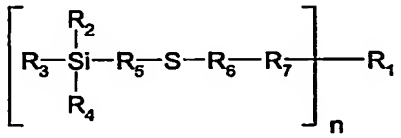
12. A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (c) is present in an amount of 0.01 to 10% based on the weight of component (a).

13. A composition according to claim 1, comprising in addition, besides components (a) and (b), further additives.

14. A composition according to claim 13, comprising as further additives, one or more components selected from the group consisting of pigments, dyes, levelling assistants, dispersants, plasticizers, vulcanization activators, vulcanization accelerators, vulcanizers, charge control agents, adhesion promoters, antioxidants and light stabilizers.

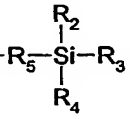
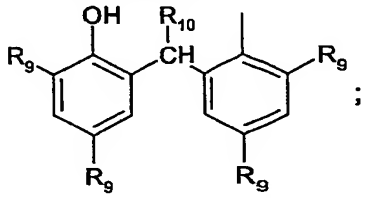
15. A composition according to claim 13, comprising, as further additives, phenolic antioxidants, aminic antioxidants, organic phosphites or phosphonites and/or thio-synergists.

16. A compound of the formula Ia

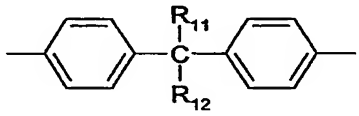
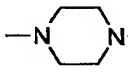


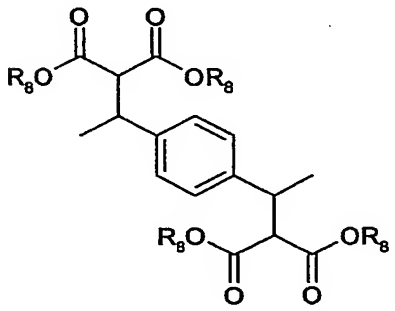
(Ia)

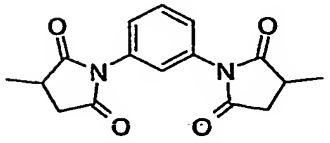
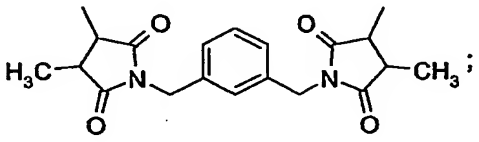
wherein, when n is 1,

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_1-C_{25}alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl; C_7-C_{12}phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl;  or  ;

when n is 2,

R_1 is C_1-C_{25}alkylene, C_1-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl; C_2-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_2-C_{25}alkylene interrupted by oxygen, sulfur, phenylene or cyclohexylene;  ,  or

 ; or when R_6 and R_7 are a direct bond, R_1 is

 or  ;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, C_1-C_{25}alkoxy, C_3-C_{25}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{25}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_8phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{25}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_{25}alkoxy, C_3-C_{25}alkoxy interrupted by oxygen;

C_5-C_{12}cycloalkoxy, C_2-C_{25}alkenyloxy, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenoxy, C_7-C_9phenylalkoxy, halogen, C_2-C_{25}alkanoyloxy or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted benzoyloxy;

R_5 is C_1-C_{25}alkylene, C_5-C_{12}cycloalkylene, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted phenylene;

R_6 is a direct bond, C_1-C_{25}alkylene; or C_1-C_{25}alkylene substituted with C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is a direct bond or $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_{13}-$, with the proviso that, when R_7 is a direct bond and n is 1, R_6 is not a direct bond; and with the proviso that, when R_7 is $-\overset{O}{\overset{\|}{C}}-R_{13}-$, R_6 is not a direct bond;

R_8 is C_1-C_{25}alkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkyl interrupted by oxygen; C_5-C_{12}cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{25}alkenyl, C_2-C_{25}alkinyl, C_7-C_9phenylalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl-substituted phenyl,

R_9 is C_1-C_5alkyl,

R_{10} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen, CF_3, C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl, or R_{11} and R_{12}, together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, form a C_5-C_8-cycloalkylidene ring that is unsubstituted or substituted by from 1 to 3 C_1-C_4alkyl groups,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen or C_1-C_{12}alkyl,

M is sodium, potassium or ammonium, and

n is 1 or 2; or an oligomeric hydrolysis product of the compound of the formula Ia.

17. A compound according to claim 16, wherein

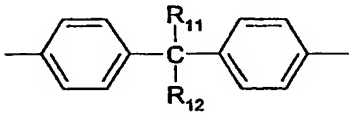
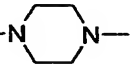
when n is 1,

R_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_4alkyl substituted with furyl, morpholine, C_1-C_4dialkylamino, C_1-C_4trialkylammonium or $M^+ {}^-O_3S$-; C_7-C_9alkyl interrupted by oxygen; cyclohexyl, C_4-C_{10}alkenyl, phenyl; C_7-C_9phenoxyalkyl, unsubstituted or C_1-C_4alkyl substituted C_7-C_9bicycloalkyl;

or $-R_5-\overset{R_2}{\underset{R_4}{\overset{|}{\underset{|}{Si}}}}-R_3$,

when n is 2,

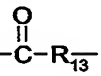
R_1 is C_2-C_6alkylene, C_2-C_4alkylene substituted with methyl; C_4-C_8alkylene substituted with methyl and interrupted by oxygen; C_4-C_8alkylene interrupted by oxygen;

 or  ;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently of the others C_1-C_4alkyl or C_1-C_4alkoxy; with the proviso that at least one of R_2, R_3 or R_4 is C_1-C_4alkoxy;

R_5 is C_2-C_4alkylene,

R_6 is C_1-C_3alkylene; or C_1-C_3alkylene substituted with methyl, C_2-C_3alkoxycarbonyl or phenyl;

R_7 is  ,

R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently of the other hydrogen or C_1-C_4alkyl,

R_{13} is oxygen or -N(R_{14})-,

R_{14} is hydrogen,

M is potassium, and

n is 1 or 2; or an oligomeric hydrolysis product of the compound of the formula Ia.

18. A process for ensuring the coupling of a white reinforcing filler to elastomer compositions reinforced by a white filler, which comprises incorporating into the elastomer at least one component (c) according to claim 1 and then vulcanizing the composition.

19. The use of component (c) according to claim 1 as coupling agent for ensuring the coupling of a white reinforcing filler with an elastomer.